

January 31, 2021
Virtual Worship

No matter who you are,
No matter where you are
On life's journey,
You are welcome here.

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"Fear of the Lord" is a way of life, a posture in the world.
Christine Yoder

PRELUDE

Down To The River To Pray
Kris Hansen

American Folk Song

CHIMES

INTROIT

Nearer My God to Thee
Chancel Choir

Lowell Mason

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Benny VanDerburgh

based on Psalm 111

One: Hallelujah!

All: I will give thanks to God with everything I've got.

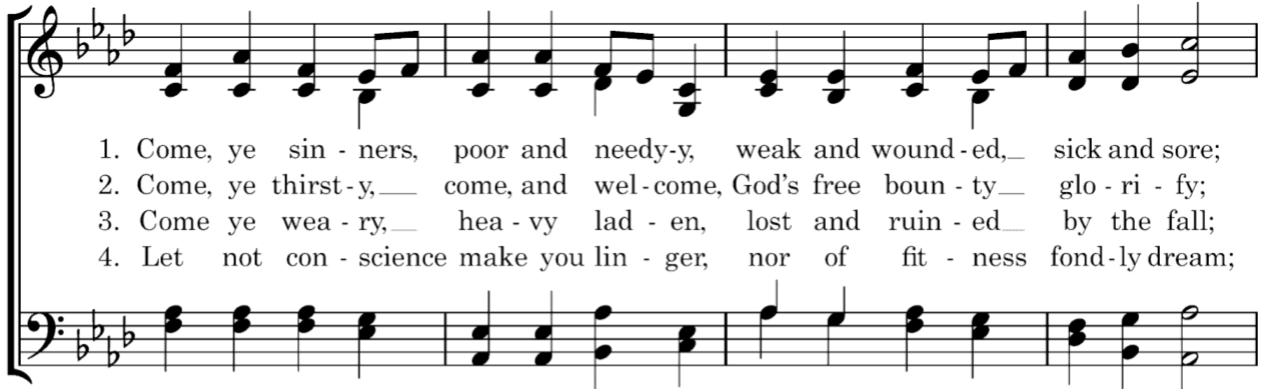
One: God's works are worth a lifetime of study—endless enjoyment!

All: Splendor and beauty are God's signature.

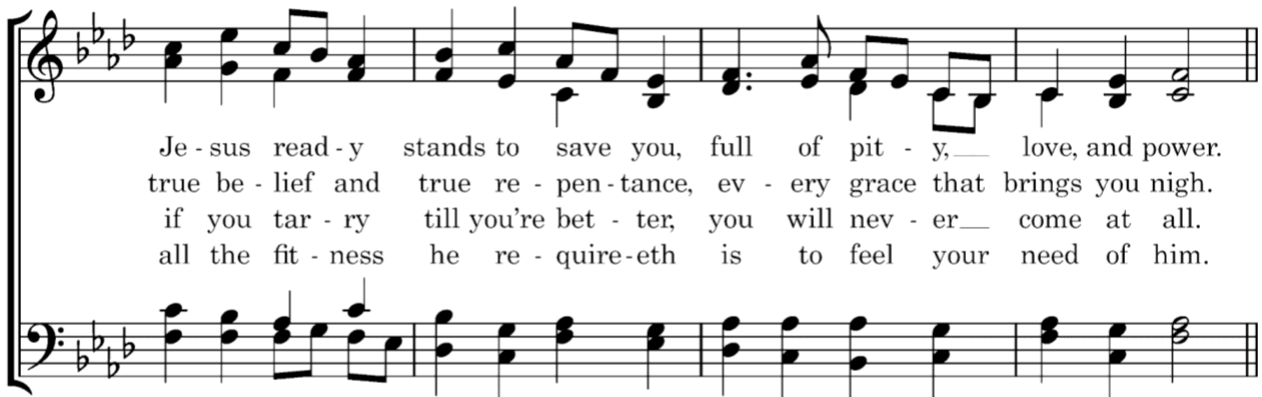
One: His generosity never gives out.

All: Hallelujah!

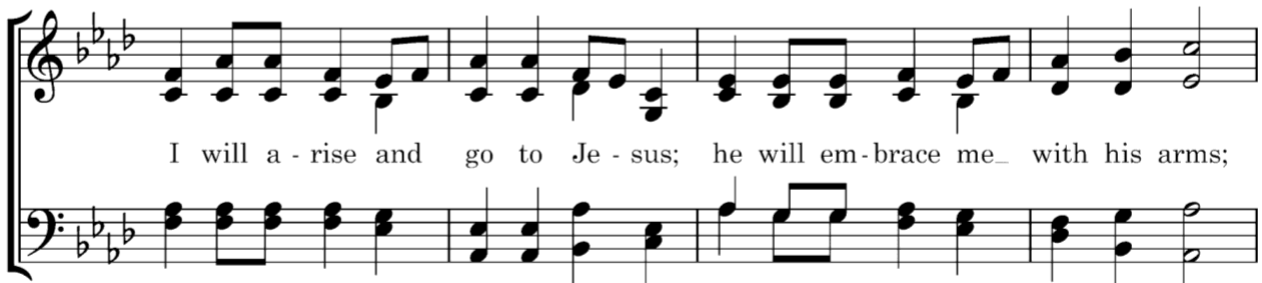
HYMN

Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy


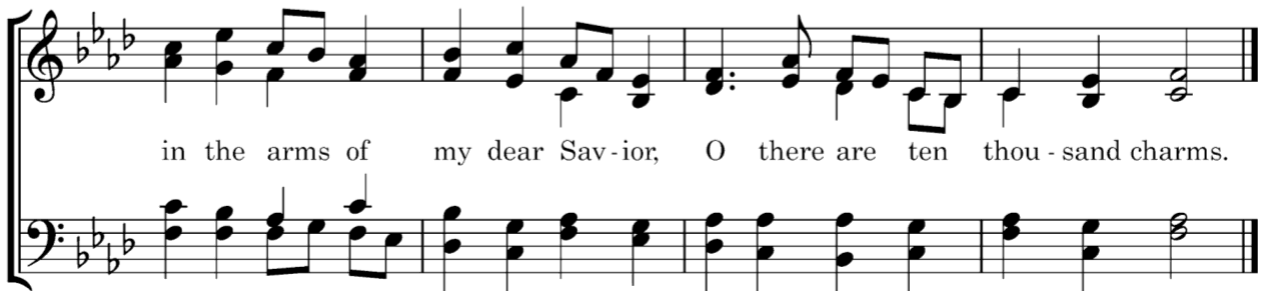
1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and needy-y, weak and wound-ed, sick and sore;
 2. Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel-come, God's free boun - ty glo - ri - fy;
 3. Come ye wea - ry, hea - vy lad - en, lost and ruin - ed by the fall;
 4. Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness fond-ly dream;



Je - sus read - y stands to save you, full of pit - y, love, and power.
 true be - lief and true re - pen - tance, ev - ery grace that brings you nigh.
 if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter, you will nev - er come at all.
 all the fit - ness he re - quire-eth is to feel your need of him.



I will a - rise and go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me with his arms;



in the arms of my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou - sand charms.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Sarah Garcia

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed.
We are ashamed at what we have done,
and appalled by we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of you Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Allen Heinemann

Psalm 111

Praise the Lord!

I will praise the Lord with my whole heart,
In the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.
The works of the Lord are great,
Studied by all who have pleasure in them.
His work is honorable and glorious,
And His righteousness endures forever.
He has made His wonderful works to be remembered;
The Lord is gracious and full of compassion.
He has given food to those who fear Him;
He will ever be mindful of His covenant.
He has declared to His people the power of His works,
In giving them the heritage of the nations.
The works of His hands are verity and justice;
All His commandments are sure.
They stand fast forever and ever,
And are done in truth and uprightness.
He has sent redemption to His people;
He has commanded His covenant forever:
Holy and awesome is His name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

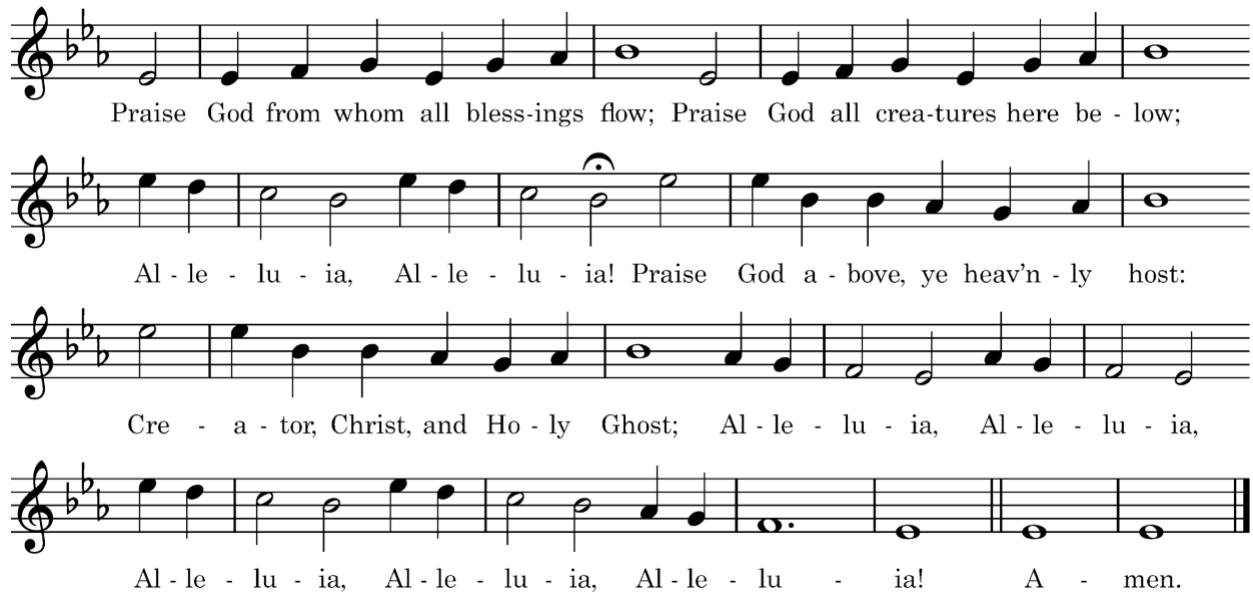
**We believe in God who has created and is creating,
who has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new,
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.
We trust God. God calls us to be the Church,
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to care for creation,
to seek justice and to resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

SERMON	"A Posture in the World"	Matt Fitzgerald
MEDITATION	<i>Arioso</i> Graham Hicks, piano	J.S. Bach arr. Max Pirani
OFFERING INVITATION		Sarah Garcia
OFFERTORY	<i>Praise to the Lord, the Almighty</i> Virtual Chancel Choir	Stralsund Gesangbuch

Give to St. Pauls with Zelle: giving@spucc.org or spucc.org/about-us/giving-to-st-pauls

FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be - low;
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:
Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jeff Carlson

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

HYMN

Amazing Grace
Led by Gay Kelly



1. A - maz - ing_ grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a__
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my__
3. Through man - y__ dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al -
4. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright shin - ing__



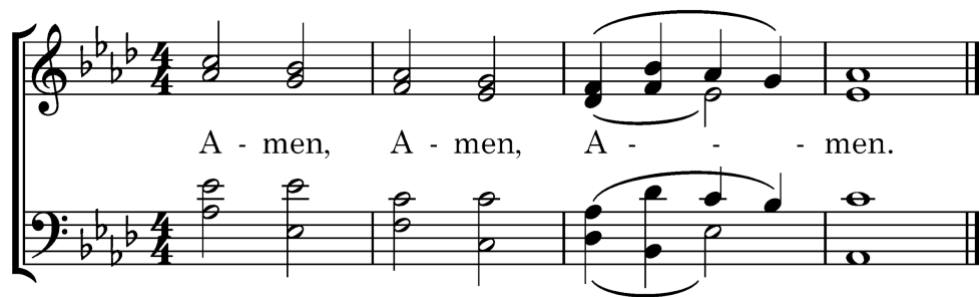
wretch like me!_____ I once__ was__ lost, but
fears re - lieved;_____ How pre - cious did that
- ready - y come;_____ 'Tis grace__ has__ brought me
as the sun,_____ We've no__ less__ days to



now__ am__ found, was blind, but__ now I see._____
grace__ ap - pear the hour I__ first be - lieved!_____
safe__ thus far, and grace will__ lead me home._____
sing__ God's praise than when we'd first be - gun._____
||

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Tocatta in F Major, BuxWV 157
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Dietrich Buxtehude

Coffee Hour is on Zoom!

*Using a computer or smartphone app, use Meeting ID: **882 5733 7213**, Pswd: **Coffee**
By phone, dial **(312) 626-6799**, Meeting ID: **882 5733 7213**, Password: **530750**.*

To help contain the spread of COVID-19, worship at Saint Pauls will be streamed online until further notice. Worship services are streamed on Sundays at 10 a.m. Central, and re-streamed every day at 10 a.m., 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Central, on Saint Pauls website, spucc.org/streaming.

*You can also call in to listen to our services at **(312) 626-6799** at 10 a.m. Central on Sundays and use Meeting ID: **816 5093 8507**, Password: **459359***

If you would like someone to pray with you this week, Clergy and Stephen Ministers are available for phone calls.

VIRTUAL WORSHIP PRODUCTION TEAM

Chuck Kent

Mary Beth Hughes, Big Thinking By The Hour

Jim Courtright, Big Thinking By The Hour

VIRTUAL MUSIC PRODUCTION TEAM

Kevin Dzierzawski

Breanna Coe

Kristofer Hansen

BORN THIS WEEK IN JANUARY - FEBRUARY

We celebrate and give thanks for your life at St. Pauls.

A perfect way to celebrate is by giving one dollar for each year of your life to our Birthday Fund, which supports A Just Harvest.

Jan 31 Vanya Weglarz

Feb 1 Rick Sensenbrenner

Feb 2 Karen Spivey, Rod Sippy, Sharon Phillips

Feb 3 Alexis Miller, Christie DeForest, Izzy Smith-Ritchie, Kathleen Moulton

Feb 4 Marcia Knudson

Feb 5 Emma Peterson

Feb 6 James Weimer, José Cruz Rivera, Rebecca Sandoval, Sarah Leeper

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED, DONATED OR WATCHED OUR 7TH ANNUAL POLAR PEACE MARCH. St. Pauls members and friends raised more than \$31,000 and combined with two family foundation grants totaling \$80,000, we can be overjoyed that we have contributed \$111,000. Since our first march in 2015, we have raised in excess of \$598,000. WOW! These funds are used to support UCAN's programs that each day change the lives of hundreds of youth who are affected by violence. You can still support the work of UCAN through our Peace March here: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/PolarPeaceMarch>.

VOLUNTEER TO READ SCRIPTURE

While we worship virtually, volunteers are needed to send in a recording of the scripture reading each week. The week before the service for which you've volunteered, the pastor preaching that Sunday will send you the scripture passage and recording/uploading instructions.

Sign up here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/686988.

SPUCC CHURCH CENTER

Thank you to everyone who has logged in and connected with our new portal for the Saint Pauls community! If you haven't yet, get started on a computer or smart device at spucc.churchcenter.com, or by downloading the "Church Center App" and using "60614" in the manual search during app setup. You'll see our Saint Pauls logo in the top results. If you have any questions or need help getting started, please email Claire at chiggins@spucc.org for profile or general assistance. Contact Melissa Miller Furgeson at bookkeeper@spucc.org for pledge and donation assistance.

CALLING ALL STORYTELLERS

There have to be a lot of good, unusual, true stories in our congregation. St. Pauls Social is looking to plan a "Moth Radio Hour" type event for those stories to be told. If you've got a story to tell, or if you'd like some help writing your story, let Pastor Jeff know in order to help us plan, jcarlson@spucc.org.

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SERVICES NEEDS YOUR HELP!

This St. Pauls founded organization provides comprehensive social services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness. LPCS is looking for volunteers to provide meals during this time. Open dates are: **February 17, March 3, March 10, and March 17**. Please contact Sally Fletcher to sign up at sfletcher1443@gmail.com, or (312) 848-5400. Needed are 30 lunches, including 3 vegetarian, at the 600 W. Fullerton location on each of these days. For other LPCS volunteer opportunities, visit their website at lpcschicago.org to get involved, or contact volunteer coordinator Jameela Chaudhry at volunteer@lpcschicago.org.

PASTORS' VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

Want to talk? We are here for you! You can always reach out to one of our pastors, but we are also offering regularly scheduled virtual office hours, beginning next week. To “drop in” during virtual office hours, contact a pastor to make an appointment.

Benny, Pastoral Intern: Mondays, 3-5 p.m.

Pastor Matt: Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Pastor Jeff: Fridays, 3-5 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JAN 31 - CHURCH FINANCE REVIEW - 11:30 a.m., Zoom

Join Saint Pauls Treasurer Toby Rogers after worship for a review of church finances and a time for Q&A. RSVP here for the Zoom link:
spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/702944.

FEB 1 - SPIRITED DISCUSSIONS - 7:30-8:30 p.m., Zoom

The Young Adults Group will gather virtually tomorrow for another “Spirited Discussions.” This event normally involves meeting at a bar near church and discussing theology, but tomorrow’s event will be via Zoom. So bring your own beverage and join us for some light hearted discussion about theology. The topics for tomorrow will be truth, race, and our political atmosphere today. Zoom link:
<https://luc.zoom.us/j/548557353>

FEB 3 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - 12 p.m., Zoom

A Non-Biblical Bible Study. Join us as we take a look inside a first-Century Christian document called *The Didache*, or the Teaching. This fascinating writing gives us a glimpse from outside the pages of the Biblical canon into what was important to early Christians as they lived as a minority within the Roman Empire. Email Pastor Jeff if you’d like to sign up, jcarlson@spucc.org.

FEB 10 - ST PAULS GREEN TEAM START-UP - 5:30 p.m., Zoom

A St. Pauls Green Team is forming to help us as a congregation live out what we say in our Statement of Faith: God calls us to care for creation. This is the perfect time to plan, as we prepare to reenter and reimagine our common bodily life together. Joe Womack and Jan Fraccaro have volunteered to co-chair our efforts, both bringing a great deal of experience and ideas. To attend, or to be in the email list for future meetings, email Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

FEB 16 - HEALTH AND WELLNESS WEBINAR - 7 p.m., Zoom

Want to up your health in 2021? One great way to do it is by eating more leafy greens! On Tuesday, February 16 at 7 p.m., join St. Pauls Social and our member Molly McGrath, Chef and Founder of Light Work Kitchens, while she reviews the benefits of adding more dark leafies to each meal, while also demonstrating recipes for adding greens to breakfast, lunch and dinner. Cooking along welcome but certainly not required! Please RSVP to molly@lightworkkitchens.com, Zoom link will be provided on Monday, February 15.

FEB 23 - BOOK DISCUSSION: HOW TO BE AN ANTIRACIST - 7 p.m., Zoom

Prof. Ibram X Kendi may be a rigorous scholar and historian with multiple books on the bestseller lists, but he writes like a passionate, fallible human being who's just trying to get it right. Kendi leads us through the labyrinth of concepts and choices that presents itself when we begin the journey to that elusive goal—antiracism—a term that many of us had never even heard of a few years ago. And he goes with us on our journey, telling stories of all the misconceptions and mistakes he made on his own journey toward antiracism. Kendi's honesty about his trials and errors is engaging and inspiring. Pam Woll will facilitate the discussion. Please RSVP to rnpeterson2017@gmail.com.

MAR 7 - ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION - 11:15 a.m., Zoom

Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting of the Congregation of St. Pauls where we will vote on the 2021 budget, new members of the Church Council, including Officers and Ministry Chairs and learn about the activities of 2020 and plans going into 2021. It is an important event in the life of St. Pauls. Members have voice and vote and Friends have voice. The meeting will be held via Zoom. The link for the meeting will be in future bulletins.

OPPORTUNITIES

CONNECTORS reach out providing networking and support for members and friends of St. Pauls. Membership is open to all who have the time and the inclination to help. Contact Marcia Volk at marcia@volkonline.com.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP) - Do you miss serving CEP meals? Team up with fellow St. Pauls members to provide *part* of a meal for 35 shelter guests at the LPCS 1521 N. Sedgwick location on Sunday Feb 14 or Feb 28. If you are interested in participating, or are looking for other ways to help our neighbors experiencing homelessness, please contact Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.com.

EMAIL LIST SIGN-UP - Are you new to St. Pauls and want to get more connected, or have you been a longtime friend and missed signing up for our email? Either way, you can go here: spucc.org/connect-learn/signups to fill out our virtual fellowship card to begin receiving our weekly email and special congregational emails, introduce yourself and receive a call from a pastor, request more information about Children and Youth Programming, and more!

FAITH IN ACTION – Some people call it showing up for a protest. Others call it public witness for the values inherent in our faith. Most of us appreciate being able to do both with like-minded congregational members. We are continually building a Faith-in-Action list of people who wish to receive notice of such protests and gatherings – frequently on short notice due to swift governmental action. Please join this email list by contacting Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org.

FAITH AND PUBLIC ISSUES – Help us connect our faith to critical public issues. Do you wish you knew more from a faith perspective about current issues that are important to our public life? Racism, climate change, immigration, to name a few? FPI programs provide opportunities to ask questions, help us understand issues in depth, and discuss possible action. The FPI Task Force plans these programs and we could use your ideas. Contact Toby Rogers at toby@rogers-home.com for information about meetings.

GIFTS, PASSIONS, SKILLS – If you have not already completed our GPS Survey, we still need to hear from you. Please go to forms.gle/jK54YezLs8Ea27uW8 to fill it out. This is an important component of our overall member engagement initiative, as mentioned in the November 10, 2019 congregational meeting. If you prefer to complete a paper document, they are available on the front counter of the office next to the labeled return box. Thank you in advance for your participation.

LITTLE LIGHTS is a St. Pauls early childhood program with classes for 2, 3, and 4-year olds. We are now accepting applications for 2021. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at littlelights@spucc.org.

LONG, CLASSIC NOVELS READING GROUP

Last year we read four books from the Zora Canon, written by African American women. Readings for 2021 are being set, so stay tuned! Anyone is welcome to join us. Please RSVP to Pastor Jeff for email updates: jcarlson@spucc.org.

NEW OR EXPECTING PARENTS – If you have a new baby or are expecting a baby, please let Corie Gallemore know so that we can find ways to support you (meals, prayer, etc.). Email Corie at corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

OUTREACH AND BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE – Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls O&B Committee would love to have you join us in keeping our church engaged in community outreach. For more information contact Pauline Taylor, paulinetaylor933@gmail.com, or Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES (POLO) has play dates, Moms night out, Dads night out, family pizza parties, prayer groups, and more activities to support families with little ones between the ages of 0 and 5. If you have young children and would like to get involved, please contact Joanne Tong at jctong@yahoo.com.

SAINT PAULS SOCIAL – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at jenluerssen@yahoo.com. Subscribe to the distribution list at eepurl.com/gQ4Eg1, or look out for future events announced in the bulletin calendar.

SAINT PAULS TOGETHER – Our Facebook Group, “Saint Pauls Together,” is for St. Pauls Members and Friends to connect and share uplifting thoughts and stories. Check out our Facebook Page to request an invitation if you’re a member or friend!

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS – If you’re in need of support through a tough time and would like to be matched with someone who would support you with companionship and prayer, or you’re feeling called to offer support, speak to Pastor Jeff Carlson (jcarlson@spucc.org), Marti Pechnyo (mpechnyo@gmail.com), or Barb Kaiser (bkaiser2213@gmail.com).

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – Now meeting every Wednesday at noon via Zoom. Newcomers are always welcome. Increase your faith and your knowledge of the Bible. RSVP: Pastor Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org to get the Zoom link.

YOUNG ADULTS – A group for fun and fellowship for folks in their twenties and thirties. All are welcome! Volunteers needed! Any ideas for future events? Email them at youngadults@spucc.org.

ZOOM MEETINGS – The St. Pauls Zoom account is available to start or continue groups. Email Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org to schedule your meeting.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send any announcements you would like in the following week’s bulletin or Friday email to chiggins@spucc.org no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday.

Verbal announcements are due by Wednesdays at noon.

Please limit announcements to 100 words. Thank you!

SAINT PAULS PRAYS

Please clip this page and pray for those who are named below. To have your prayer request included, simply ask a pastor in person, on the phone or by email.

Our practice is to run each prayer request for four weeks and then remove it.

If you would like to continue a prayer request after four weeks, let a pastor know.

- Loved ones of Amy Newman at her death last week, especially her children Alyssa and Miles Van Denburg.
- Nial, Gloria Joseph's husband, who is dealing with a cancer diagnosis and beginning treatments.
- Marci, Gloria Joseph's friend, who recently suffered a stroke.
- Greg Mooney and family at the death of Sheryl.
- Prayers for our democracy.
- Carrie Brugger's brother, Steve, and family at the death of his wife, Barb.
- Juanita Barlow's sister, Maria Dolores Guadalupe, recovering from a stroke.
- The Rieck family at the death of Shirley.
- The Nietzsche family at the tragic death of Dan.
- Kristin Mack and family at the deaths of her grandfather, Dennis Carlson, and granny, Charlotte.
- Ninon Freeman at the death of her mother, Alba Young.
- Jan Bail's sister, Marty, diagnosed with cancer.
- Michael VanZeyl's Aunt Betty, hospitalized, and Laura VanZeyl's parents, Lionel and Donna, coping with isolation.
- Molly Dierks, in the hospital.
- Erick, an Army friend of Bruce Voice.
- Bruce Voice, recovering from surgery.
- A mother and her two children going through a very difficult time.
- Patty, friend of Petrine and Garold Ashley, as she undergoes a third knee transplant.
- Mark Huddle at the death of his father, Mike.
- Mary Train, recovering from a broken wrist.
- Rob and Shannon Castle's friend, Mike, in treatment for cancer.
- Pat Ruch's sister, Aline, beginning treatment for brain cancer.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- Karl Wirsum, in rehabilitation for mini-strokes.

You are beloved – to others, to the world you live in, and most important, to God. God knows your struggles and failures, as well as your joys and triumphs. Even when you walk through the valley of shadows, God is with you. If you or someone you love has lost hope, is feeling completely alone or like life doesn't matter, reach out for help. Contact one of the pastors today for information about mental health care advocacy and resources that can help you and your loved ones. Contact information for the pastors is at the back of this bulletin.

ABOUT ST. PAULS
Making a Joyful Sound in the City!

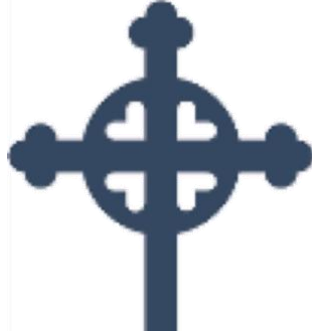
Saint Pauls UCC has a vibrant history in the city of Chicago. Founded in 1843, we are one of the city's oldest churches. In 1989, we became one of America's first congregations to declare ourselves "Open and Affirming" of LGBTQ women and men.

From founding Chicago's largest provider of social services to at-risk children to starting a home for the elderly, from housing protestors at the 1968 Democratic Convention to hosting Lincoln Park's first MLK day march against violence on Chicago's streets, we are proud to make a joyful sound in the city.

Most important, over the past 177 years we are glad to have introduced thousands of children and adults to the amazing, inclusive, life changing, uplifting love of God. We do so in worship that is traditional, but far from conventional.

St. Pauls United Church of Christ
2335 North Orchard Street Chicago, Illinois 60614
(773) 348-3829 FAX (773) 348-3858
www.spucc.org

Matt Fitzgerald, *Senior Pastor*, mfitzgerald@spucc.org
Jeff Carlson, *Associate Pastor*, jcarlson@spucc.org
Sarah Garcia, *Associate Pastor for Children and Youth*, sgarcia@spucc.org
Tom Henry, *Pastor Emeritus*, emeritushenry@gmail.com
Benny VanDerburgh, *Pastoral Intern*, bvanderburgh@spucc.org
Karen E. Johnson, *President of the Congregation*, kejplano@aol.com
Maddy Lockhart, *Director of Operations*, mlockhart@spucc.org
Melissa Miller Furgeson, *Bookkeeper*, bookkeeper@spucc.org
Kurt R. Hansen, *Music Director*, kurtsingsbach@gmail.com
Kevin Dzierzawski, *Organist*, kdzierza@att.net
Brendan Henry, *Pianist*, brendanhenrypiano@gmail.com
Nancy Voigts, *Children's Choir Director*, nvoigtsgod@att.net
Kecia Waldschmidt, *Youth Choir Director*, keciagerman@hotmail.com
Mark Mosley, *Intergenerational Orchestra Director*, mwmosley@gmail.com
Kevin O'Brien, *Lay Liturgical Administrator*, kkobrien48@hotmail.com



WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS UCC!

Welcome to those whose hearts are on fire with faith,
and to those who bring their doubt inside our doors.

Welcome to our first time guests and
our longtime members.

Welcome to single people, tiny children,
grandparents and families of all configurations.

Welcome to those who rejoice and to those who grieve.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

We are an Open and Affirming church.

We welcome all.

We are blessed by your presence and
we are glad you are here.